

Application No.: PCT/GB99/04142

for producing an acoustic output, the acoustic radiator comprising a first region and a second region surrounding the first region, the first region being stiffer than the second region and having the transducer mounted on or in it.

29. (New) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 28, in which the acoustic radiator is integrally moulded in the housing.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The above amendments are being submitted in connection with the national stage filing of the present Application. The amendments eliminate the multiple dependent claims from the Application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-11, 13, 15-19, 21, 22, and 24-26 have been amended as follows and Claims 28 and 29 have been added.

30. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker for use with a personal player [as hereinbefore defined] selected from the group consisting of a personal CD player, a personal mini-disc player and a personal stereo cassette player, the portable loudspeaker comprising a sound generating unit in a housing having an outer periphery in the shape of a storage device selected from the group consisting of a CD box, a tape cassette box, and a mini-disc box.

5. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 2, [3 or 4,] in which the sound generating unit is attached to or mounted in the lid.

6. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 2 [to 5], further comprising a further sound generating element attached to or mounted in one side of the open-top box enclosure.

8. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 6 [or 7], in which the said one side is movable relative to other sides of the open-top box enclosure.

9. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 6, [7 or 8,] in which the said one side is a second lid, with the housing being in the shape of a storage device selected from the group consisting of[,] a double CD box, a double tape cassette box and a double mini-disc box.

10. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, in which the sound generating unit comprises an acoustic radiator and a transducer mounted on or in the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator for producing an acoustic output.

11. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, in which the housing includes a radio receiver for receiving radio signal broadcasts and means for reproducing sound according to received radio signal broadcasts using the sound generating unit.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8-11, 13, 15-19, 21, 22, and 24-26 have been amended as follows and Claims 28 and 29 have been added.

30. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker for use with a personal player [as hereinbefore defined] selected from the group consisting of a personal CD player, a personal mini-disc player and a personal stereo cassette player, the portable loudspeaker comprising a sound generating unit in a housing having an outer periphery in the shape of a storage device selected from the group consisting of a CD box, a tape cassette box, and a mini-disc box.

5. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 2, [3 or 4,] in which the sound generating unit is attached to or mounted in the lid.

6. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 2 [to 5], further comprising a further sound generating element attached to or mounted in one side of the open-top box enclosure.

8. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 6 [or 7], in which the said one side is movable relative to other sides of the open-top box enclosure.

9. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 6, [7 or 8,] in which the said one side is a second lid, with the housing being in the shape of a storage device selected from the group consisting of[,] a double CD box, a double tape cassette box and a double mini-disc box.

10. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, in which the sound generating unit comprises an acoustic radiator and a transducer mounted on or in the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator for producing an acoustic output.

11. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of the preceding] claim[s] 1, in which the housing includes a radio receiver for receiving radio signal broadcasts and means for reproducing sound according to received radio signal broadcasts using the sound generating unit.

13. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker for use with a personal player [as hereinbefore defined] selected from the group consisting of a personal CD player, a personal mini-disc player and a personal stereo cassette player, the portable loudspeaker comprising a housing comprising an open-top box enclosure, a lid for covering the enclosure opening, a sound generating unit mounted on or in the lid, and means coupled to the sound generating unit for receiving output signals from [a] the personal player [as hereinbefore defined], wherein the lid is movable from a first position covering the enclosure opening to a second position uncovering the enclosure opening.

15. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 13 [or 14], in which the outer periphery of the housing resembles a standard storage device selected from the group consisting of a CD box, a tape cassette box and a mini-disc box.

16. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to (any one of) claim[s] 13 [to 15], in which the receiving means includes a socket for use in combination with a plug electrically connected to a personal player.

17. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 13 [to 16], further comprising a further sound-generating unit attached to or mounted in one side of the open-top box enclosure.

18. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 13 [to 17], in which the sound generating unit comprises an acoustic radiator.

19. (Amended) A loudspeaker comprising an acoustic radiator and a transducer mounted on or in the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator for producing an acoustic output, [characterised] characterized in that the acoustic radiator comprises a first region and a second region surrounding the first region, the first region being stiffer than the second region and having the transducer mounted on or in it.

21. (Amended) A loudspeaker according to claim 19 [or 20], in which the second region has a second uniform stiffness.

22. (Amended) A loudspeaker according to claim 19, [20 or 21,] in which the stiffness variation is provided by the first region being thicker than the second region.

24. (Amended) A loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 19 [to 23], in which the amplitude of displacements in the acoustic radiator are greater at frequencies below 300 Hz than they are above 300 Hz..

25. (Amended) A loudspeaker according to [any one of] claim[s] 19 [to 24], in which the acoustic radiator provides an acoustic output at least in part through pistonic movement at frequencies below 300Hz.

26. (Amended) A portable loudspeaker for use with a personal player selected from the group consisting of a personal CD player, a personal min-disc player and a personal stereo cassette player, the portable loudspeaker comprising a sound generating unit in a housing having an outer periphery in the shape of a storage device selected from the group consisting of a CD box, a tape cassette box, and a mini-disc box, wherein the sound-generating unit comprises a loudspeaker comprising an acoustic radiator and a transducer mounted on or in the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator for producing an acoustic output, characterized in that the acoustic radiator comprises a first region and a second region surrounding the first region, the first region being stiffer than the second region and having the transducer mounted on or in it [according to any one of claims 1 to 12, or 13 to 18, in which the sound-generating unit comprises a loudspeaker according to any one of claims 19 to 25].

28. (New) A portable loudspeaker for use with a personal player selected from the group consisting of a personal CD player, a personal mini-disc player and a personal stereo cassette player, comprising a housing comprising an open-top enclosure, a lid for covering the enclosure opening, a sound generating unit mounted on or in the lid, and means coupled to the sound generating unit for receiving output signals from the personal player, wherein the lid is movable from the first position covering the enclosure opening to a second position uncovering the enclosure opening, and wherein the sound generating unit comprises a loudspeaker comprising an acoustic radiator and a transducer mounted on or in the acoustic radiator to excite bending waves in the acoustic radiator for producing an acoustic output, the acoustic radiator comprising a first region and a second region surrounding the first region, the first region being stiffer than the second region and having the transducer mounted on or in it.

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29. (New) A portable loudspeaker according to claim 28, in which the acoustic radiator is integrally moulded in the housing.

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